



Communications

Mark A. Danaj
Director

18 North County Street – 6th Floor
Waukegan, Illinois 60085-4355
Phone 847 377-2550
Fax 847 782-6090

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Contact:

Al Giertych, Assistant County Engineer
(847) 362-3950

Joe Chekouras, Communications Specialist
(847) 377-2155

jchekouras@co.lake.il.us

Road construction season underway on Lake County Highways

LAKE COUNTY, IL – The Lake County Division of Transportation anticipates investing \$57.2 million on 39 construction projects during the 2002 construction season. Projects will affect nearly 30 miles (27.4) of county highways, including five major projects to help mitigate traffic congestion.

The Division of Transportation began work on several projects last year and will begin several major projects that will carryover to next year.

According to Lake County Director of Transportation/County Engineer Marty Buehler, a highway project is a complex process that involves several years of planning and engineering to address issues such as design, drainage, utility conflicts, environmental needs and public coordination.

“Highway projects are very complex efforts, with a number of regulatory and engineering challenges that need to be satisfied before construction can begin,” Buehler stated.

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Road construction season underway in Lake County – 2 of 3

“While this construction program will be beneficial to the county highway system, it will not be enough to meet the present needs of the county with respect to the highway congestion issue,” stated Diana O’Kelly, Lake County Board Member and Public Works and Transportation Committee Chair. “The county board has identified transportation issues as a top priority, and we will continue to seek financial solutions to this very important problem.”

Please see the following map and 2002 Highway Construction Program for locations and details of this year’s construction projects.

Capacity Projects

The Lake County Division of Transportation plans five major capacity projects this construction season, which are designed to reduce traffic bottlenecks. These projects include two widening projects on Butterfield Road; two widening projects on Washington Road and a widening project on Quentin Road. Each of these projects involves increasing capacity from two lanes to five lanes; with four through lanes and center turn lanes.

Intersection Projects

Construction plans include eleven intersection projects, including major improvements at the intersection of Peterson Road and Route 83, St. Mary’s Road and Route 176 and Wilson Road and Route 134.

Rehabilitation Projects

Rehabilitation projects, which are designed to keep county highways in good condition, include programs such as resurfacing, bridgework, railroad crossing work and pavement patching. The Division of Transportation has seventeen rehabilitation projects planned for the 2002 construction season. These include reconstruction of a section of Wadsworth Road and nine separate resurfacing projects.

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Bridge Projects

The replacement of Dilley's Road Bridge at Mill Creek, which began last fall and will continue throughout the year, is the only bridge project in the construction program. This project involves the only extended road closure in the program.

The Lake County Division of Transportation provides engineering, construction and maintenance on more than 280 miles of major arterial highways and 46 miles of bike facilities in the county.